

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A dental crown configured to be readily mountable in a patient's mouth as part of a treatment of primary teeth and permanent molars, the dental crown having a natural appearance and color of a vital tooth and comprising:
 - a tooth shaped top surface; and
 - depending flexible side surfaces extending continuously around edges of said tooth shaped top surface and extending continuously from a tooth shaped top surface end of the dental crown to an end opposite said tooth shaped top surface end of the dental crown, said dental crown being formed of a thermoplastic material enabling dimensional stability and sufficient resilience of the crown,
 - at least one of said depending flexible side surfaces ~~formed with~~comprising an undercut defining an inwardly directed bottom portion extending to said opposite end of the crown, the undercut made in the flexible side surface, ~~thereby~~ enabling the dental crown to be directly mounted on a primary tooth or permanent molar.
2. (Previously presented) A dental crown according to claim 1, wherein said thermoplastic material comprises a polymer selected from polyacetal, polyacrylate, polymethylmethacrylate (PMMA), polyamide, polyaryletherketone (PAEK), polyetherketone

(PEK), polyetheretherketone (PEEK), polyetherimide (PEI), polyethersulfone (PES), polysulfone (PSU), and mixtures thereof.

3. (Previously presented) A dental crown according to claim 2, wherein said polymer is a homo- or co-polymer of acetal resin, polyetheretherketone (PEEK) or polymethylmethacrylate (PMMA).

4. (Previously presented) A dental crown according to claim 1, wherein said thermoplastic material comprises at least one of the following: fibers, fillers, pigments and reinforcements.

5. (Original) A dental crown according to claim 1, formed by injection molding.

6. (Previously presented) A dental crown according to claim 5, produced by a mass production injection molding method, said mass production injection molding method comprising:

providing a multi-element mold; and

employing the multi-element mold to injection mold a dental crown from a thermoplastic polymer material.

7. (Original) A dental crown according to claim 6, wherein said multi-element mold includes an ejector, which is being operated to eject the molded crown following opening the multi-element mold.

8. (Original) A dental crown according to claim 1, formed by compression molding.
9. (Original) A dental crown according to claim 1, formed by machining.
10. (Previously presented) A dental crown configured to be mounted in a patient's mouth as part of treatment of primary teeth and permanent molars,

the dental crown being made of acetal homopolymer resin and having a natural appearance and color of a vital tooth,

the crown having a tooth shaped top surface and depending flexible side surfaces extending continuously around edges of said tooth shaped top surface and extending continuously from a tooth shaped top surface end of the dental crown to an end opposite said tooth shaped top surface end of the dental crown,

said dental crown being dimensionally stable and having sufficient resilience,

at least one of said depending flexible continuous side surfaces being formed with an undercut defining an inwardly directed bottom portion, thereby enabling the dental crown to be readily mountable on a primary tooth or permanent molar.
11. (Canceled)